

State of California
AIR RESOURCES BOARD

Resolution 95-20

May 25, 1995

WHEREAS, on February 8, 1979, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) promulgated a 0.12 parts per million primary one-hour ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) for ozone;

WHEREAS, on November 15, 1990, the enactment date for the Clean Air Act (Act) as amended in 1990 (42 U.S.C. section 7401 et seq), the Sacramento Metropolitan Area was classified as a serious ozone nonattainment area by operation of law;

WHEREAS, the Act as amended in 1990 required the State of California for nonattainment areas designated as "serious, severe, and extreme to submit to U.S. EPA a revision to the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for ozone, by November 15, 1994, in accordance with section 181 of the Act;

WHEREAS, on November 6, 1991, the U.S. EPA defined the boundaries of the Sacramento Metropolitan Area to include: the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District; the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District; the El Dorado and Placer County Air Pollution Control Districts (except for the Lake Tahoe Air Basin portion), and southern Sutter County;

WHEREAS, in 1994 the Sacramento Metropolitan Area air districts prepared the Sacramento Area Regional Ozone Attainment Plan (Plan) as a revision to the SIP;

WHEREAS, the Sacramento Metropolitan Area air district governing boards completed approval of the Plan on December 20, 1994;

WHEREAS, the Air Resources Board approved the Plan and submitted it to U.S. EPA a revision to the California State Implementation Plan on December 29, 1994;

WHEREAS, the Sacramento Regional Ozone Attainment Plan contains an attainment demonstration, as required by the Act;

WHEREAS, the earliest that attainment of the ozone standard for the Sacramento Metropolitan Area can be demonstrated is the year 2005, due to the complexity of the air pollution problem, the magnitude of reductions needed for attainment, and the difficulty of implementing new mobile source measures in a shorter time frame;

WHEREAS, U.S. EPA has redesignated the Sacramento Metropolitan Area as a severe nonattainment area, effective June 1, 1995, in accordance with section 181(b)(3) of the Act;

WHEREAS, oxides of nitrogen (NOx) are known precursors to the formation of ozone;

WHEREAS, NOx emissions from on and off-road heavy duty vehicles are a significant contributor to the formation of ozone in the Sacramento Metropolitan Area;

WHEREAS, the Plan and attainment demonstration include a local mobile source program to reduce NOx emissions by 5.0 tons per day from heavy duty on- and off-road vehicles in the Sacramento Metropolitan Area by the year 2005;

WHEREAS, a central component of the local mobile source program is a regional incentive program to assist operators of heavy duty vehicles throughout the Sacramento Metropolitan Area to acquire low-Nox engines or retrofit existing engines to low NOx levels, resulting in significant air quality benefits;

WHEREAS, without implementation of the local mobile source program, it is not possible to demonstrate attainment of the ozone standard in the Sacramento Metropolitan Area by the year 2005 as no other feasible measures exist to fill the 5.0 ton per day NOx shortfall which would result;

WHEREAS, included in the Plan is a commitment by the Sacramento Metropolitan Area districts to implement this local mobile source program by the year 1997;

WHEREAS, substantial funding will be necessary for the timely development and implementation of this program, and such funding has not yet been secured;

WHEREAS, as established under the Intermodal Surface Transportation and Efficiency Act of 1990 (ISTEA), the purpose of the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) is to fund transportation projects and programs that will contribute to the attainment of the national ambient air quality standards, with a focus on ozone and carbon monoxide;

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Sacramento Metropolitan Area is the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG), which is responsible for dispersing available CMAQ funds;

WHEREAS, SACOG is currently seeking nominations for projects to be funded under the CMAQ program, and project applications are due to SACOG by July 7, 1995;

WHEREAS, the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District is preparing a request for CMAQ funding to establish a regional incentive program for heavy duty vehicles;

WHEREAS, federal guidance on CMAQ implementation recognizes that the SIP and the control measures they contain are necessary to ensure that areas attain and maintain the NAAQS;

WHEREAS, federal guidance states that innovative activities based on promising technologies and feasible approaches to improve air quality will be considered for CMAQ funding;

WHEREAS, federal guidance directs State and MPO's to include consultation with air quality agencies at the State and local levels so that projects having the greatest air quality benefit can be prioritized for CMAQ funding and implemented;

WHEREAS, federal guidance requires that States and MPO's must fulfill their responsibilities so that nonattainment areas are able to meet their attainment dates, and that close coordination is needed to ensure that CMAQ funds are used appropriately and to maximize their effectiveness in meeting the Act's requirements;

WHEREAS, the Air Resources Board finds that

- (1) the implementation of the local mobile source program will significantly reduce transportation related emissions in the Sacramento Metropolitan Area;
- (2) the implementation of this program is necessary to attain the ozone standard in the Sacramento Metropolitan Area by the year 2005;
- (3) the local mobile source control program is a measure in the Sacramento SIP to reduce transportation related emissions, and upon approval by U.S. EPA, will account for 5.0 tons per day in NOx emission reductions;
- (4) the use of CMAQ funds for this project will implement a proposed SIP measure, and will assist the Sacramento Metropolitan Area in meeting the Act's requirements;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Air Resources Board endorses and supports the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District's application for funding under the CMAQ program;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Air Resources Board directs the Executive Officer to forward this Resolution to the SACOG Board for their consideration;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Air Resources Board directs ARB staff to work with the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District and the other four nonattainment districts to accomplish the program objectives of this CMAQ funding request;